February 26, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Editorial: Stop denying patients access to marijuana

"The state Supreme Court's recent ruling that patient-to-patient medical marijuana transactions are not covered by the state's medical pot law leaves Michigan residents with the right to use the drug as a medicine, but with poor options for obtaining it."

Full story

The Detroit News: Letter: There's more to monkey story

Michigan DHS Director Maura D. Corrigan writes "A recent Detroit News 'quick hit' editorial described a court case involving a current DHS employee and charges of a racially hostile work environment at this department in 2009 ('Monkeying around is costly,' Feb. 23). We agree that such an environment should never be tolerated at this or any other workplace, public or private."

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Maura Corrigan: State program aims to break poverty's grip on children

"Beginning March 1, thousands of schoolchildren in Detroit, Flint, Pontiac and Saginaw will find they have a new champion in their corner. The Michigan Department of Human Services, through its Pathways to Potential program, will be embedding a worker in virtually every elementary school in these four cities." *Full story*

The Detroit News: Farmington man charged in girlfriend's murder, dismemberment

"A man suspected of the strangulation and dismemberment of a 29-year-old Farmington woman was formally charged in the slaying Tuesday in Berkley 45-A District Court.... The video arraignment from jail was held in Berkley after judges at 47th District Court — where it would normally have taken place — all recused themselves from hearing the matter because of [Kaitlin] Hehir's employment."

Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Man accused of dismembering girlfriend, putting body in tubs to be arraigned today

Full story

Hometown Life Newspapers: Victim of apparent homicide was a Farmington Hills District Court employee

Full story

MLive.com: Suspected killer of Farmington's Kailtlin Hehir to appear in Berkley court today

Full story

The Oakland Press: UPDATED Coworkers mourn slain Farmington woman as boyfriend is arraigned for murder

Full story

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Man charged with murder in strangulation, dismemberment of girlfriend in Farmington

Full story

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Boyfriend charged in murder, dismemberment of Farmington woman

Full story

The Detroit News: Detroit men sentenced in torturing, dismembering case as judge calls crimes 'most disgusting'

"Two men were sentenced Tuesday in Third Circuit Court in the torturing, killing and dismembering of two people whose bodies were burned inside a car in April.... [Judge Thomas] Jackson spoke briefly to each man as he handed down their sentences, saying in his 30 years on the bench, this case was among the top five most horrific."

Full story

Dowagic Daily News: Cass awarded \$286,569 for 'Swift and Sure'

"Cass County Circuit Judge Michael E. Dodge knows every time he sends someone to prison it costs taxpayers about \$35,000.... That's why Dodge is 'delighted' to have landed a \$253,809 state grant from the Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program (SSSPP) administered by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) and piloted last year in Berrien County."

Full story

Dowagic Daily News: County looks at 1899 courthouse fate

"Cass County commissioners are kicking off what Administrator Louis Csokasy expects could be a twoyear process evaluating the mothballed 1899 courthouse."

Full story

Flint Journal: Flint extends ban on new medical marijuana facilities; Includes Supreme Court decision

"The city of Flint has extended its temporary ban on new medical marijuana dispensaries and grow operations for an additional 180 days. In renewing the moratorium Monday night, the Flint City Council also included the Feb. 8 Michigan Supreme Court decision that prohibits patient-to-patient transfers." Full story

Gaylord Herald Times: Medical marijuana dispensary proposal would allow local regulation

"A bipartisan bill introduced in the state House [last] week would amend Michigan's Medical Marihuana Act to explicitly allow local governments to permit and regulate dispensaries as 'medical marihuana provisioning centers.' The bill comes on the heels of a Feb. 8 opinion by the Michigan Supreme Court ruling the existing law does not allow dispensaries where marijuana is sold or transferred." Full story

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Jackson Narcotics Enforcement Team raid on Kaya Provision Center stemmed from illegal sales

"The recent raid of a medical marijuana dispensary was the first in the Jackson area since a Michigan Supreme Court ruling gave local authorities the ability to shut dispensaries down.... As of Monday, Feb. 25, anyone operating a medical marijuana dispensary could be prosecuted."

Full story

Also see:

Jackson Citizen Patriot: At least one dispensary still operating despite Jackson County prosecutor opinion, others shut down

Full story

Lansing State Journal: Business People

"Arrivals: Paula Manderfield, who recently retired as Ingham County 30th Circuit Court judge, has joined Lansing-based law firm Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap PC as a shareholder in the firm's Lansing office."

Note: No link available.

Macomb County Legal News: Asked & Answered: Kim Thomas on life sentences for juveniles

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled that a U.S. Supreme Court decision that said juveniles convicted of murder can be eligible for parole should not be applied retroactively for most youths sentenced in Michigan. The ruling came in the case of Raymond Carp, a man convicted of a murder committed when he was 15."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Brunch planned for March 10

"... The [Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Brunch] event will feature music for a sing-a-long presented by Cahill & Murphy as well as commentary from co-MCs Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Mike Riordan and ISIAL lawyer and author Fred Lauck."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: No-parole sentence thrown out in attack on parents

"A young woman convicted in a fatal attack on her father will get a chance at a new sentence, the result of a U.S. Supreme Court decision that bans automatic no-parole punishments for teenagers in murder cases, the Michigan appeals court said last Friday."

Full story

Oakland County Legal News: Center provides mediator training opportunities

"People face conflict every single day of their life. Oakland Mediation Center (OMC) offers 40-Hour Domestic and Civil Mediator Trainings to any individual who wishes to learn skills to help others workout their disputes."

Full story

Saginaw News: Judge denies Saginaw man's murder plea deal in August homicide of 6-year-old Lay'la Jones

"A judge has rejected a plea agreement for one of the four men charged in connection with the August homicide of 6-year-old Lay'la Jones. Saginaw County Circuit Judge Darnell Jackson on Tuesday, Feb. 26, announced that he would not allow Levonne J. Greer to plead guilty to second-degree murder."

Full story

SBM Blog: Cert Granted in Another Michigan Plea Bargain Case

"The U.S. Supreme Court granted cert today in a Michigan case, Burt v. Titlow (12-414), that may clarify the scope of another criminal case from Michigan, Lafler v. Cooper, decided last year."

Full story

Three Rivers Commercial-News: Court upholds man's sentence

"The Michigan Court of Appeals Thursday[February 14] upheld the sentence of Richard Allen Loper, who plead guilty March 25, 2011 in St. Joseph County Circuit Court to one count of possession of child sexually abusive material and one count of using a computer to commit a crime."

Full story

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Justice delayed: Detroit district court judge often shows up late

"Detroit district court judges have it pretty good. They work seven hours a day and get an hour for lunch. They get nine weeks off and make nearly \$140,000 a year. So why does 36th District Court Judge Cylenthia Miller need to show up late so often or not show up at all?"

Full story